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only very young girls to the Boys' School. Including those of the Mission schools, 101 girls were under instruction. If a school was started, it would be quite easy to get more than 100 girls to start with. He requested that the Government should bestow their earnest and early attention to both the matters mentioned by him. Replying to the Dewan, he added that the people of Colachel were as public-spirited as in any other place and that they would be ready to provide a building for a Girls' School, if the Government would only sanction a school.

Dewan's reply.—Action will be taken to start a Lower Grade Elementary School for girls at Colachel.

124. The establishment of a Secondary School at Nedumangad.

Mr. M. Subramania Pillai (Member, Nedumangad taluk) said that last year also the subject had been brought forward before the Assembly but the grievances of the people of the taluk remained unredressed. The want of an English school at Nedumangad was a desideratum. There was a building put up by a few among the people and that was handed over to the Government. But a Girls' School had been started in it, though the cry of the people was all along for a Boys' School. He requested therefore that action might soon be taken to establish a Lower Grade Secondary School for boys in Nedumangad.

Dewan.—The Educational authorities say that there is no need for a Boys' School at Nedumangad, as a sufficient number of boys will not be available.

Member.—It is not so. There would be a sufficient number of boys for a school there.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

125. The educational needs of the Karunagappalli taluk.

Mr. N. Padmanabha Pillai (Member, Karunagappalli taluk) observed that the people of the taluk were comparatively backward in point of education, especially in English education. It was not however due to the innate incapacity of the young men of the taluk to learn, but it was due to the want of facilities for receiving education. In point of revenue and other considerations, the taluk was one of the most important. The nearest Higher Grade Secondary Schools to the taluk were those at Quilon and Mavelikara, but they were far away and the people were reluctant to send their children at a young age to such distant places. The necessity for a Secondary School was therefore evident. He had reasons to think that the Educational authorities had an idea of opening a school there and they even mentioned that as a reason for refusing grant to a Mission agency that applied for aid two or three years ago. He would not all at once ask for a Higher Grade Secondary School, but would be content with a Lower Grade Secondary School for the present. As regards the building, he said that the choultry could be removed to the Homapura and that building used for the purpose. But if it be considered unsuitable, the Town Hall under construction could be made use of.

He next mentioned that the Higher Grade Elementary School at Padanayarkulangara was at present housed in five buildings, one of them being over a mile from the main

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building. Proper supervision was impossible in such an institution. Under the Education Code only 380 boys could go into it, as against its present strength of 600 boys. Many pupils had also been refused admission. A Government site was available and the necessity for a pucka building was imperative. The same was more or less the case with the Kayankulam Elementary School also, for which land had been acquired six years ago. Proper buildings should be constructed for both the institutions and he requested that early action might be taken in the matter.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

126. The raising of the standard of the Lower Grade Secondary School at Kayankulam to the Higher Grade.

Mr. E. N. Kesava Pillai, B. A. (Member, T. I. C., Kayankulam) said that the necessity for a Higher Grade Secondary School was much felt by the people of Kayankulam. The town, on account of its large volume of land trade and the presence of a large number of public offices, was rising in importance. It was situated centrally for the taluks of Karunagappalli, Karthikappalli and Mavelikara. There were at present one Higher Grade and one Lower Grade Secondary School at Mavelikara and a Lower Grade Secondary School at Haripad. There were also Recognised Higher Grade Secondary Schools at Haripad, Mavelikara and Mannar. The Member therefore proposed that the Departmental Higher Grade Secondary School at Mavelikara might be shifted to Kayankulam. The transfer would not seriously affect Mavelikara as there were Recognised Higher Grade Secondary Schools at Mavelikara itself, at Mannar, two miles to the north, and at Haripad, four miles to the west.

A Higher Grade Secondary School at Kayankulam would be more useful to the inhabitants of the Karunagappalli taluk and the northern *pakuthies* of the Kunnathur taluk. Also the existing Lower Grade Secondary School at Kayankulam could be shifted to Karunagappalli, where there was none. There was no building constructed for the school at Mavelikara and no special site need be acquired at Kayankulam.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

127. The need for a Lower Grade Secondary School at Punalur.

Mr. Padmanabhan Parameswaren (Member, Pathanapuram taluk) said that the educationally backward condition of the people of the taluk did not require much expatiation. There could not be found many head-quarters of taluks which had not an English school; but Punalur had none. The need for a school had been repeatedly brought to the notice of the Government in the Assembly. It might be said that the school at Kottārakara, which had Railway connection with Punalur, should meet the requirements of the taluk. Within an area of about 60 sq. miles, Kottarakara was the only place where there was a school. At no time, therefore, would there be accommodation for all the boys that might take the trouble of going there. He therefore requested that a Lower Grade Secondary School, with classes up to Form II, should at once be established by the Government at Punalur. There was a salt bankshall building available, now used as the office of the Excise Inspector. That office could, without inconvenience, be shifted to a room in

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